

## REMARKS

This is to acknowledge, in the above-identified Office Action, the allowance of all of Claims 1, 3-6 and 8-12, and the objection to Claim 7. In this regard, it was pointed out that the language in Claim 7 was believed to be inconsistent with the depiction of the invention as set forth in Fig. 6.

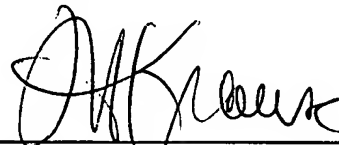
Referring first to the allowed claims, Applicant has presented a minor change to Claim 6 to state “wherein said biasing rotary member is disposed on ~~each~~ of an upstream side and another biasing rotary member is disposed at a downstream side of the image reading position”. This change has been made to provide clear antecedent basis for the terms of Claim 7.

With respect to the objection of Claim 7 as being inconsistent with the depiction of the invention as shown in Fig. 6, Applicant notes that Claim 7 is intended to compare the differences in size between rollers 18 and 19 as described on Page 24, lines 17-25 of the Specification. In this regard, that portion of the Specification points out that the roller 18, on the upstream side of the image reading position has a diameter which is smaller than the diameter of the roller 19 which is disposed at the downstream side of the image reading position. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the terms of Claim 7 correspond to what is shown in Fig. 6 and described in the Specification in relation thereto. Possibly, this objection to Claim 7 was based on a comparison of rollers 16 and 17, but those rollers are not disposed at the image reading position.

For these various reasons it is believed that the application is now in condition for the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. A. Krause', written over a horizontal line.

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